

## FREE ECONOMIC ZONES: CONCEPT AND BENEFITS FOR FEZ RESIDENTS

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Free economic zones (hereinafter referred to as FEZ) are a part of the territory of the Republic of Belarus with established borders. The territory has a favorable legal regime for commercial activities. The most common activities of FEZ residents are: trade, work in the field of real estate transactions, automotive activities, research and technical work.

Legal entities and individual entrepreneurs located in the territory of the FEZ can act as a FEZ resident. Free economic zones (their administrations) are empowered to register newly created legal entities. The founders of commercial organizations that are residents of the FEZ can be both residents and non-residents of Belarus.

FEZs are part of the state territory of the Republic of Belarus and the customs territory of Belarus.

The special customs, registration and tax regime of the SEZ provides organizations with the opportunity to work in special favorable conditions. Thus, the current legislation provides benefits for FEZ residents:

- exemption from income tax for five years from the date of declaring profit by a FEZ resident;
- reduction by 50% of the income tax rate for the next five years;
- exemption from real estate tax on buildings and structures located on the territory of the FEZ;
- cancellation of the mandatory sale of foreign currency;
- exemption from rent for 5 years for land plots provided for the construction of facilities to residents registered after January 1, 2012 and others.

The territory of the FEZ differs from the rest of the territory of the state in that it has a special regime for the implementation of economic activities, including customs benefits:

- FEZ residents pay only a fee for customs clearance of goods;
- much easier possibility of registration of a free customs zone;
- exemption from payment of import customs duties, taxes when importing foreign goods (equipment and components for production) into the territory of the FEZ and placing them under the procedure of a free customs zone;

– cancellation of payment of import customs duties, taxes when exporting foreign goods outside the Eurasian Economic Union and placed under a free customs zone;

– exemption from payment of import customs duties, taxes when exporting finished products to the customs territory of the Eurasian Economic Union.

In order to create and develop industries based on new and advanced technologies, increase exports, attract investments in Belarus, there are six free economic zones: FEZ Brest (1996), Gomel-Raton (1998), FEZ Minsk (1998), FEZ "Vitebsk" (1999), FEZ "Mogilev" (2002), FEZ "Grodnoinvest" (2002).

All these FEZs are complex zones, each of which includes a production, export and free customs zone.

The procedure and conditions for the application of customs legislation for residents of free economic zones are established by the Agreement on Free (Special, Special) Economic Zones in the Customs Territory of the Customs Union and the Customs Procedure of the Free Customs Zone dated June 18, 2010.

The limits of the free customs zone for each FEZ resident are determined upon his application by the decision of the FEZ administration and are subject to agreement with the State Customs Committee of the Republic of Belarus.

A free customs zone is a specially allocated area within the boundaries of the FEZ with or without structures (premises), defined or equipped in accordance with the requirements of the legislation, where the customs procedure of the free customs zone is applied.

The customs procedure of a free customs zone is a customs procedure in which goods are placed and used within the territory of the FEZ or part of it without payment of customs duties, taxes, as well as without the application of non-tariff regulation measures in relation to foreign goods and without the application of prohibitions and restrictions in relation to goods customs union.

It can be concluded that FEZ and free customs zones on the territory of the SEZ are an institution that helps attract investment, as well as strengthen the economic and scientific potential of the state, the inclusion of the country in international trade or certain industries.

1. . . . = English  
for Customs Officers / . . . : , 2018.  
– 327 .  
2. ( , ) -

3. : 18 2010 . 286. /  
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## **THE RELEVANCE OF STUDYING THE PROCESS OF BUSINESS MODEL TRANSFORMATION IN A ROBOTISED ECONOMY**

The study of the transformation of business models in a robotised economy is of particular relevance in today's world. Robotisation is currently one of the main causes of transformation of business models in industry, even though it is also influenced by digitalisation, globalisation, and shifts in technological patterns. These conditions are fundamental to the transformation of business models, which in turn affects the economy as a whole. It is equally important and relevant at the present stage of development to study the process of robotization in this or that production, as every year technologies become more complex, robots are modernized. To assess their effectiveness, relevance and prospects it is necessary to constantly research this process. This is especially promising within countries where industry is well developed, as it is the most practical and effective application of these technologies.

At the moment, "the economy is characterized by a high degree of dynamism and increasing role of intangible factors - information, knowledge, new technologies, human capital – in the processes of economic systems development" [1, p. 125]. The introduction of robots into the production process contributes to changes in the business model of the company, according to which it builds its future strategy. In this regard, there is a need for a more detailed study of the impact of robotization in the production process, because the knowledge of these mechanisms contributes to the implementation of robotic technology, which will lead to the improvement of both the industrial economy and the economy of the country as a whole.